

February X, 2013

Tsvetan Gentchev Tsvetanov  
Deputy Prime Minister and

Minister of Interior

Bulgaria

Dear Minister Tsvetanov:

We are writing to express our support for your recent report on the 2012 Burgas bombing. Your comprehensive investigation builds a sound foundation for further action against Hizbollah, and we look forward to supporting you in your next steps.

The Bulgarian report demonstrates irrefutable evidence that Hizbollah was responsible for the Burgas bombing. There is now clear imperative for action. Hizbollah's actions in Europe must be met with a response to prevent further attacks in Europe and around the world.

The investigation of the Burgas bombing, coupled with the deep body of evidence and intelligence that supported the decisions by the United States, Canada, and the Netherlands to classify in its entirety Hizbollah as a terrorist organization, and action by the United Kingdom and Australia to place the "Hizbollah External Security Organization" on their terrorist lists, demonstrates an unmistakable path forward for the European Union to isolate Hizbollah over its support for terror and incitement.

Placing Hizbollah on the terrorist list would be the next logical step, in light of the terrorist attack on European soil. Blocking Hizbollah from fundraising would make it more difficult for Hizbollah to plan, finance and execute terrorist activities in Europe and around the world. We fear that failure to add Hizbollah to the terror list will allow, perhaps even encourage, the terror organization to exploit the lack of unity in the European Union Member States, and attempts to launch additional attacks on civilians. Furthermore, if Hizbollah's ability to maintain fundraising networks in Europe remains intact, this threatens to undermine the European Union's significant efforts towards Middle East peace.

We hope you will act to build the consensus among European Union members that is urgently needed to weaken Hizbollah's terrorist infrastructure. We look forward to working with you and your counterparts to increase engagement between the United States and the European Union to prevent future Hizbollah terrorist operations.

Sincerely,